

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Takeshi Kamio, et al.

Serial No.: 09/987,404

Group Art Unit: 1731

Filed: November 14, 2001

Examiner: John M. Hoffman

For: METHOD FOR SINTERING POROUS-GLASS MATERIAL, AND METHOD FOR  
MANUFACTURING PREFORM AND OPTICAL FIBER

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Box AF

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER  
DEC 07 2006

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated September 7, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper. No new matter has been added.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.